

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A method for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and at least one CIM repository, said method comprising:

creating a connection between said object manager and each said at least one CIM repository wherein each CIM repository has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected CIM repository and its associated communication protocol;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to a repository API, said protocol indicator identifying the associated communication protocol by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said associated communication protocol; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager communicates with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said associated communication protocol over said connection to said CIM repository; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein said associated communication protocol is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said CIM repository is resident on said host computer.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said CIM repository is resident on a separate computer.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes

calling a JAVA factory class.

Claim 7 - Claim 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A computer-readable medium comprising computer code for communication between a Common Information Model (CIM) object manager of a host computer in coordination with a repository application programming interface (API) and at least one CIM repositories, said computer code of said computer-readable medium effecting the following:

creating a connection between said object manager and said at least one CIM repositories wherein each of the CIM repositories has an associated communication protocol;

identifying a selected CIM repository and its associated communication protocol;

passing a communication protocol indicator from said CIM object manager to the repository API, said protocol indicator identifying the associated communication protocol by which said CIM object manager desires to communicate with said CIM repository;

creating, by the repository API, a protocol-specific object having methods implemented using said associated communication protocol; and

returning said protocol-specific object to said CIM object manager, whereby said CIM object manager communicates with said CIM repository using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising computer code for effecting the following:

invoking a method defined upon said protocol-specific object;

transmitting said method using said associated communication protocol over said connection to said CIM repository; and

returning a result to said CIM object manager over said connection using said associated communication protocol.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said associated communication protocol is LDAP, JDBC, or JAVA.

Claim 17 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein said creating a protocol-specific object includes calling a JAVA factory class.

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